

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EPA-04 L-03 H-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1703

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : SENV, OECD

SUBJECT : OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE : MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP ON
TRANSFRONTIER POLLUTION (TFP) PARIS, JANUARY 28-29, 1974

REF :

(1) AEU/TFP/ENV/A,74.1 - AGENDA

(2) STATE 012449

1. SUMMARY : SUBJECT GROUP HELD CONSTRUCTIVE MEETING LEADING
TO INCEPTION OF SEVERAL CASE-STUDIES ON PRIORITY ISSUES FOR
PREPARATION BY VOLUNTEER MEMBER-COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS (SEE BELOW).
INTENDED FOR PRESENTATION TO ENVCOM AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN
FALL. SECRETARIAT HAS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF CONTRIBUTION
BY WILLIAM MANSFIELD, EPA, WHO, IN ABSENCE OF OFFICIAL US
NOMINATION, COMBINED HIS ADVISORY FUNCTION TO OECD PER REF.
(B) WITH THAT OF SPOKESMAN FOR US. HOWEVER, SECRETARIAT
EXPECTS OFFICIAL US NOMINATION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.

ACTION REQUESTED : DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO INQUIRE INTO
STATUS OF U.S. CASE-STUDY MATERIAL ON RAINY RIVER. END SUMMARY

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2. DETAILS. AD HOC GROUP ELECTED NORWEGIAN CHAIRMAN,

NETHERLANDS AND SWISS VICE-CHAIRMAN. GENERAL TONE OF MEETING PRAGMATIC AND CONSTRUCTIVE, HEAVILY LOADED ON SIDE OF LEGAL ISSUES. FOR U.S. MANSFIELD WARNED GROUP THAT OVER-EMPHASIS OF LEGAL ISSUES WOULD BE OBSTACLE TO CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF PROCESS LEADING TO FINAL DECISION. HIS PAPER, PREPARED FOR MEETING (INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE SOLUTION OF TRANSFRONTIER POLLUTION PROBLEMS - SOME TECHNICAL, POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL APPROACHES), WAS WELL RECEIVED.

3. GROUP SELECTED SEVERAL PRIORITY ISSUES WITH VIEW TO PRESENTING ACTION ITEMS TO NOVEMBER 1974 MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. TO DO THIS ADEQUATELY, SECOND MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 29-30, 1974 (U.S. NOMINATION REQUESTED), WITH POSSIBLE THIRD MEETING IN JUNE TO FINALIZE PAPERS FOR JULY ENVCOM PLENARY.

4. PAPERS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS :

(A) SECRETARIAT : OUTLINE OF MEASURES AND PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO TRANSFRONTIER POLLUTION (TFP) SITUATIONS. THIS PAPER WILL DEAL TO SOME EXTENT WITH THE THORNY PROBLEM OF EQUAL ACCESS TO OTHER MEMBER COUNTRY COURTS, AND A QUESTIONNAIRE COVERING THIS ISSUE WILL BE DEVELOPED BY US CONSULTANT ROBERT STEIN.

(B) CANADA : COMPENSATION OF POLLUTION VICTIMS.

(C) NETHERLANDS : TERRITORIAL SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR TFP, E.G. ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLLUTION OF RHINE.

(D) GERMANY : JOINT PLANNING IN A TFP AREA.

(E) FRANCE : FEDERATION OF NATIONAL WATER-BASINS FOR APPROACH TO TFP IN COMMON AREA, E.G. RHINE, WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING COMMON EFFLUENT STANDARDS AND PRACTICE.

(F) U.S. : TWO PAPERS - (I) BASIC ELEMENTS OF JOINT PLANS FOR PREVENTION AND CLEAN-UP OF OIL SPILLS. (II) TECHNICAL STEPS
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REQUIRED FOR POLLUTION ABATEMENT IN TFP AREA.

(G) OCED/NEA : DAMAGE LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION PROBLEMS IN NUCLEAR POLLUTION AREAS.

5. NEXT MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP : APRIL 29-30.BROWN

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Message Attributes

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